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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Latvian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT

1. Naval Vessels Observed at Ventspils DATE DISTR.
2. Radar and Searchlight Installations Along the Latvian Coast

15 March 1957

NO. PAGES

1

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DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

REFERENCES

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

information on naval

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vessels observed at Ventspils and on the location of radar and searchlight installations along the Latvian coast

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than 30 vessels of this class in the Venta River and in the Winter Harbor.

MAY 1957

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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Area: Ventspils



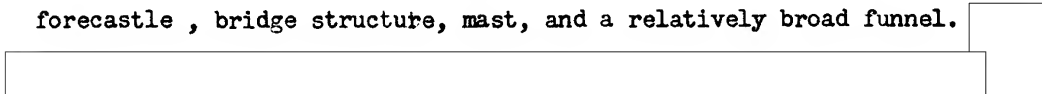
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1. Navy

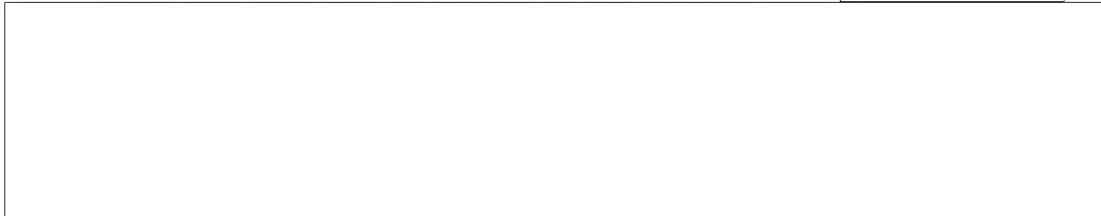
A long line of smaller naval vessels lay along the south shore of the river across from the export quay and in Winter Harbor.


The largest type present was a "frigate" of about 1,000 tons, of which there were six vessels. These were flush deckers with relatively long and narrow hulls, and apparently built for high speed. The bow was quite high and had a kind of hogback. One gun in shield on the forecastle, bridge structure, mast, and a relatively broad funnel.

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There were more than 30 vessels of the smallest type.






A submarine, lying alongside an old destroyer, was seen in the harbor. Description:  Size estimated at 1,200 to 1,400 tons. Streamlined conning tower, without visible protuberances. No guns or equipment on deck. (Sketch).

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 two ~~submarine~~ minesweepers were seen leaving the harbor.

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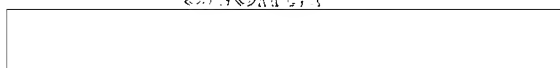
2. Radar, Searchlights

While under way along the coast,  vessels  constantly lighted up by searchlights ashore.  the distance between the searchlights was about three nautical miles.

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At the entrance to Ventspils, in a position near Pilots Tower,

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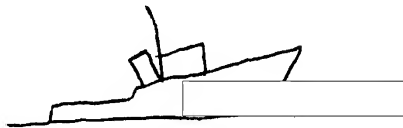
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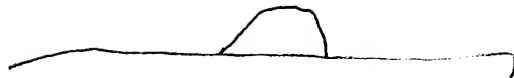
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(Admiralty chart), was seen a "radar antenna" very similar to the type the Germans had [redacted] during the war. The antenna was described as a rectangle resting on one of its short sides. The rectangle was built up as a kind of grille.

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